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Media Contacts: Hilary Papendick (415.686.8061); Sara Aminzadeh, California Coastkeeper Alliance (415.794.8422).

****MEDIA ADVISORY****

“King Tides” Illustrate Vulnerability of California Shoreline to Sea-Level Rise

Next Monday, some of the year’s highest tides will hit California shorelines, providing a glimpse of what the state can expect as sea-level rises. Ultra-high or “king tides” will occur December 30-January 2 and January 29-31. The California King Tides Initiative, now in its fourth season, encourages the public to view and photograph ultra-high tides and add to a growing collection at flickr.com/groups/cakingtides. Initiative organizers aim to help the public envision how California may be affected by sea-level rise (National Academy of Sciences projects one foot of sea-level rise by 2050).

“Many of our beaches, trails, wetlands, roadways, and critical infrastructure become flooded during king tides, illustrating the severity and scope of potential sea-level rise impacts. Significant economic impacts underscore the need to start planning for sea level rise in California now,” says Susan Hansch, Chief Deputy Director at the California Coastal Commission, an Initiative organizer. The Commission is inviting the public to provide input on its recently released Draft Sea-Level Rise Policy. The document is designed to assist local planners and others in addressing sea-level rise in Commission planning efforts. More information is available at www.coastal.ca.gov/climate/SLRguidance.html.

View and photograph King Tides in your area.

North Coast/Humboldt: Eureka: Woodley Island; Indian Island; Del Norte St. Pier; Halvorsen Park/The Adorni Center. Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary. King Salmon Beach. New Navy Base Road in Manila/Samoa.

San Francisco Area: Outer Coast: Ocean Beach; Stinson Beach; Pacifica: Beach Blvd. City of Capitola. City of Santa Cruz. Inner SF Bay: Proposed Treasure Island development site. South Bay: Redwood Creek and proposed Redwood City dev. site, Dumbarton Bridge. Marin: Corte Madera, Richardson Bay, Gallinas Creek (north of China Camp).

** San Francisco Baykeeper is conducting a boat patrol on San Francisco Bay during the morning king tides on December 31st. Interested media can contact Ian Wren (ian@baykeeper.org, 415-810-6956). Space is limited.*

Central Coast: Monterey: Marina State Beach, Monterey State Beach, Cannery Row; Carmel: Carmel Beach; Big Sur: McWay Falls at Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park, Andrew Molera Beach, Garrapata Beach, Pfeiffer Beach.

Santa Barbara Area: Isla Vista beaches, Goleta Beach County Park, Leadbetter Beach, Butterfly Beach, Miramar Beach, Padaro Lane, Carpinteria Salt Marsh, Hobson State Beach, Faria, and Emma Wood State Beach.

Los Angeles: Broad Beach, Malibu shoreline homes, Marina del Rey, Port of Long Beach, Port of Los Angeles.

Orange County: Seal Beach/Sunset Beach Oceanfront (City of Seal Beach), Huntington Harbor (Huntington Beach), Newport Beach islands and peninsula (Newport Beach).

San Diego: San Diego Bay, Oceanside Beach, San Elijo Lagoon, Del Mar Dog Beach/San Dieguito Lagoon Entrance, Torrey Pines (where Penasquitos enters the ocean), La Jolla Shores, Mission Beach, and Imperial Beach/Tijuana Estuary.

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